CHEROKEE COUNTY

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COUNTY COUNCIL:

Dist. 1 LYMAN DAWKINS III

Dist. 2 MIKE FOWLKES

Dist. 3 QUAY LITTLE, VICE-CHAIRMAN Dist. 4 TIM SPENCER, CHAIRMAN

Dist. 5 CHARLES MATHIS, JR.

Dist. 5 CHARLES MATHIS, JF Dist. 6 DAVID SMITH

Dist. 7 TRACY A. MCDANIEL

CLERK TO COUNCIL DORIS PEARSON

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 16, 2020

Cherokee County has now activated their COVID-19 Operations Plan. All county offices, landfill, and garbage pickup will operate at normal schedule, but the public is being asked to limit their interactions to telephone calls, online transactions, and the Treasurer's Office drive thru if possible.

The goal of the plan is to minimize exposure between county staff and the public. While currently not in place, a strategic reduction in county staff could be implemented and/or the closure of "non-essential" offices.

Cherokee County's COVID-19 Operations Plan is subject to change due to the fluidity of the situation. Changes to this plan that impacts the community will be made public immediately.

We encourage citizens to conduct any business online or by phone and to not come to Cherokee County facilities unless necessary.

ONLINE COUNTY RESOURCES

In an effort to reduce foot traffic within government offices, the following resources are available online to:

- Pay County Property Taxes
- Pay Traffic Tickets

Numerous other online resources can be found at https://cherokeecountysc.gov/.

PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Treasurer's Office - Tax payments may be made through the drive thru at the Treasurer's Office, online, and in the drop box located on the side of the Administration Building near the drive thru after hours. No cash will be accepted within the drop box - checks only.

Auditor's Office - Applications for high mileage and anyone needing to pay taxes on new vehicle purchases are encouraged to use the drive thru.

Assessor's Office – Applications for legal residence, agriculture use, and protest of real property values should be handled at a later time as these only affect year-end tax bills.

COURTHOUSE

As of today, Cherokee County Clerk of Court Brandy McBee states that all First and Second Appearances have been cancelled for Thursday, March 19th.

Cherokee County Grand Jury will meet on Thursday, March 19th, at 10:00AM. Cherokee County Court of General Sessions asks grand jurors to use discretion when considering to attend and recommends jurors to stay home if they are sick, at increased risk of severe illnesses from other infectious diseases, or of older age – however please contact the Clerk of Court's Office.

Cherokee County Family Court will be held this week as scheduled. Only litigants, attorneys, and subpoenaed witnesses will be allowed to enter the Family Court area.

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Cherokee County Council will still meet as scheduled.

VETERANS AFFAIRS

While the Veterans Affairs Office will remain open, the transportation service will be cancelled at least until March 31st. If there is a matter that needs to be addressed by this office, please call prior to coming to the Administration Building.

MAGISTRATE'S COURT

Traffic and Criminal Court - For those whose fines have not been paid by the day of their court date, cases will be rescheduled until further notice.

Civil Court - Only litigants, attorneys, and subpoenaed witnesses will be allowed to enter the facility.

ANIMAL SHELTER

Effective immediately, Cherokee Count Animal Shelter will not be accepting owner surrender animals until further notice.

REGISTER OF DEEDS

Regular Schedule - however, please handle online if possible.

VOTER REGISTRATION/ELECTIONS

Open only for filing and Gaffney Fire Protection Area Referendum absentee voting; however, you may vote absentee with mail in ballots. You can continue to register to vote and do a change of address at http://scvotes.org.

BUILDING SAFETY

Please call for inspection requests.

COUNTY EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Other than County Council's regularly scheduled meetings, all county meetings, conference room reservations, and events have been cancelled until further notice.

GARBAGE PICKUP, RECYCLING, AND LANDFILL

Regular schedule

Please call the main county phone number at 864-487-2560 for questions regarding any Cherokee County offices.